

THE HONORABLE STEVEN GELLER
FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
1250 E HALLANDALE BEACH BLVD SUITE 604
HALLANDALE FL 33009

THE HONORABLE ELAINE BLOOM
FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
300 71st STREET SUITE 504
MIAMI FL 33141

THE HONORABLE HOWARD FORMAN
FLORIDA STATE SENATE
4000 HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD SUITE 340-N
HOLLYWOOD FL 33021-6744

THE HONORABLE PETER M WEINSTEIN
FLORIDA STATE SENATE
7880 N UNIVERSITY DR #301
TAMARAC FL 33321

THE HONORABLE HARRY JOHNSTON
U S HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
1501 CORPORATE DRIVE SUITE 205
BOYNTON BEACH FL 33426

THE HONORABLE PETER DEUTSCH
U S HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
10100 PINES BOULEVARD
PEMBROKE PINES FL 33025

THE HONORABLE E CLAY SHAW
U S HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
1512 E BROWARD BOULEVARD SUITE 101
FORT LAUDERDALE FL 33301

THE HONORABLE ALCEE L HASTINGS
U S HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2701 W OAKLAND PARK BLVD SUITE 200
OAKLAND PARK FL 33311

THE HONORABLE BOB GRAHAM
UNITED STATES SENATE
COURTHOUSE TOWER
44 W FLAGLER STREET SUITE 1715
MIAMI FL 33130

THE HONORABLE CONNIE MACK
UNITED STATES SENATE
777 BRICKELL AVENUE SUITE 704
MIAMI FL 33131



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 4970
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

August 1, 1996



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF
Planning Division
Environmental Branch

TO ADDRESSEES ON THE ENCLOSED LIST:

Enclosed for your review and comment is the Draft Feasibility Report and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study, Region III.

Please provide any comments you may have within 45 days of the date of publication of the Notice of Availability of the DEIS in the Federal Register. If no comments are received within that 45-day period, it will be assumed that you have none. After receipt of comments, we will incorporate any necessary changes, and prepare the Final EIS.

Sincerely,


A. J. Salem
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure

LIST OF ADDRESSEES

RECIPIENTS OF THE FEASIBILITY REPORT
AND DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
COAST OF FLORIDA EROSION AND STORM EFFECTS STUDY
REGION III

FEDERAL AGENCIES

DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF FED. ACTIVITIES (A-104)
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
401 M STREET S W
WASHINGTON DC 204060
(5 CYS)

DIRECTOR ECOLOGY AND CONSERVATION
US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
ATTN: DONNA WIETING
14TH & CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW
HCHB SP ROOM 6117
WASHINGTON DC 20230
(5 CYS)

DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY ROOM 4G064
1000 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE SW
WASHINGTON DC 20230 (2 CYS)

DIRECTOR
FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION
OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENV IMPACT
800 W CAPITOL STREET NW
WASHINGTON DC 20513-0001

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
MITIGATION DIRECTORATE
500 C STREET SW ROOM 423
WASHINGTON DC 20472

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
POLICY AND COMPLIANCE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
MAIN INTERIOR BUILDING, MS 2340
1849 C STREET NW
WASHINGTON DC 20240 (12 CYS)

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION
1100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW #809
WASHINGTON DC 20004-2590

DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & DISEASE
CONTROL - F29
CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL
1600 CLIFTON ROAD
ATLANTA GEORGIA 30333 (2 CYS)

US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
PO BOX 141510
GAINESVILLE FL 32614-1510

REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICER HOUSING &
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
ROOM 600-C
75 SPRING STREET SW
ATLANTA GA 30303-3309
(2 CYS)

COMMANDER (OAN)
SEVENTH COAST GUARD DISTRICT
909 SE 1ST AVENUE
BRICKNELL PLAZA FEDERAL BLDG
MIAMI FL 33131-3050

REGIONAL DIRECTOR
INSURANCE & MITIGATION DIVISION
FEMA
1371 PEACHTREE STREET NE
ATLANTA GA 30303-3309

SOUTHERN REGION FORESTER
US FOREST SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
1720 PEACHTREE ROAD NW
ATLANTA GA 30309-2405

REGIONAL DIRECTOR
US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
1875 CENTURY BOULEVARD
ATLANTA GA 30345

FIELD SUPERVISOR
U S FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
P O BOX 2676
VERO BEACH FL 32961-2676

MR HEINZ MUELLER
ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY SECTION
EPA REGION IV
345 COURTLAND STREET NE
ATLANTA GA 30365-2401
(5 CYS)

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT BR
3500 DELWOOD BEACH ROAD
PANAMA CITY FL 32407-7499

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR
9721 EXECUTIVE CENTER DRIVE
ST PETERSBURG FL 33702

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
CHIEF, PROTECTED SPECIES BRANCH
9721 EXECUTIVE CENTER DRIVE
ST PETERSBURG FL 33702

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
SUITE 103
11420 NORTH KENDALL DRIVE
MIAMI FL 33176

STATE AGENCIES

STATE CLEARINGHOUSE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
2555 SHUMARD OAK BOULEVARD
TALLAHASSEE FL 32399-2100
(16 CYS)

FLORIDA DEPT OF ENV PROTECTION
OFFICE OF AQUATIC PRESERVES
1801 SE HILLMORE DRIVE SUITE 0204
PORT ST LUCIE FLORIDA 34952-7551

FLORIDA DEPT OF ENV PROTECTION
BUREAU OF STATE LANDS
7400 H SOUTH GEORGIA AVENUE
WEST PALM BEACH FL 33405

FLORIDA DEPT OF ENV PROTECTION
MARINE RESEARCH INSTITUTE
19100 S.E. FEDERAL HIGHWAY
TEQUESTA FL 33469

FLORIDA DEPT OF ENV PROTECTION
SOUTH FLORIDA DISTRICT
1900 SOUTH CONGRESS AVENUE
WEST PALM BEACH FL 33406

FLORIDA DEPT OF ENV PROTECTION
DIVISION OF STATE LANDS
1900 SOUTH CONGRESS AVENUE
WEST PALM BEACH FL 33406

SOUTH FLORIDA WATER MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT
3301 GUN CLUB ROAD
WEST PALM BEACH FL 33416

COUNTY AGENCIES (PALM BEACH CO)

PALM BEACH COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
3323 BELVEDERE ROAD BUILDING 502
WEST PALM BEACH FL 33406
(2 cys)

PALM BEACH COUNTY PARKS AND
RECREATION
2700 6TH AVENUE SOUTH
LAKE WORTH FL 33461

PALM BEACH COUNTY HEALTH UNIT
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
901 EVERNIA STREET
WEST PALM BEACH FL 33401

PALM BEACH COUNTY PLANNING ZONING
AND BUILDING
100 AUSTRALIAN AVENUE
WEST PALM BEACH FL 33406

PALM BEACH COUNTY SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION
559 N MILITARY TRAIL
WEST PALM BEACH FL 33415-1311

PALM BEACH COUNTY TOURIST
DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
1555 PALM BEACH LAKES BOULEVARD
SUITE 204
WEST PALM BEACH FL 33401

COUNTY AGENCIES (BROWARD CO)

DIRECTOR
BROWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT
OF NATURAL RESOURCES PROTECTION
218 S W FIRST AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE FL 33301

B JACK OSTERHOLT
BROWARD COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
115 S ANDREWS AVENUE ROOM 409
FORT LAUDERDALE FL 33301

ERIC MYERS DIRECTOR
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES DIVISION
BROWARD CO DEPT OF NATURAL
RESOURCES PROTECTION
218 S W FIRST AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE FL 33301

STEPHEN H HIGGINS ASST. DIRECTOR
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES DIVISION
BROWARD CO DEPT OF NATURAL
RESOURCES PROTECTION
218 S W FIRST AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE FL 33301 (2 CYS)

BROWARD COUNTY PLANNING COUNCIL
ADMINISTRATOR
115 S ANDREWS AVENUE ROOM 307
FORT LAUDERDALE FL 33301-4801

BROWARD COUNTY PLANNING DIVISION
DIRECTOR
115 S ANDREWS AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE FL 33301

COUNTY AGENCIES (DADE CO)

MR BRIAN FLYNN
DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE MGT
33 S W 2ND AVENUE SUITE 3
MIAMI FL 33130
(2 CYS)

JEAN EVOY
SENIOR PLANNER
METRO DADE PLANNING DEPARTMENT
STEPHEN P CLARK CENTER SUITE 1210
MIAMI FL 33128

DIRECTOR
METRO DADE PARK AND RECREATION
DEPARTMENT
50 S W 32 ROAD
MIAMI FL 33129

OTHER AGENCIES

JUPITER INLET DISTRICT
400 N DELAWARE BOULEVARD
JUPITER FL 33458

PORT OF PALM BEACH DISTRICT
BOX 9935
RIVIERA BEACH FL 33404

SOUTH LAKE WORTH INLET DISTRICT
P O BOX 3645
LANTANA FL 33465

FLORIDA INLAND NAVIGATIONAL
DISTRICT
1314 MARCINSKI ROAD
JUPITER FL 33477

TREASURE COAST REGIONAL PLANNING
COUNCIL
P O BOX 1529
PALM CITY FL 33490-1529

CHAIRMAN
HILLSBORO INLET IMPROVEMENT AND
MAINTENANCE DISTRICT
812 NW 6TH AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE FL 33311

DIRECTOR
PORT EVERGLADES AUTHORITY
1850 ELLER DRIVE
FORT LAUDERDALE FL 33316

SOUTH FLORIDA REG. PLNG COUNCIL
3440 HOLLYWOOD BLVD SUITE 140
HOLLYWOOD FL 33021

DIRECTOR
PUBLIC WORKS DEPT
CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
1700 CONVENTION CENTER DRIVE
MIAMI BEACH FL 33149

INTEREST GROUPS

MR DONALD J DUERR
BIODIVERSITY ASSOCIATES
PO BOX 6032
LARAMIE WY 82070

AMERICAN LITTORAL SOCIETY
2809 BIRD AVENUE SUITE 162
MIAMI FL 33133

FLORIDA SHORE AND BEACH
PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION (FSBPA)
864 EAST PARK AVENUE
TALLAHASSEE FL 32301



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 4970
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019

July 31, 1996



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Director
Office of Federal Activities (A-104)
Environmental Protection Agency
401 M Street Southwest
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Sir:

Enclosed are five copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study, Region III for publication of a notice of availability in the Federal Register.

Sincerely,


A. J. Salem
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosures



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

P.O. BOX 2676

VERO BEACH, FLORIDA 32961-2676

July 9, 1996

Colonel Terry Rice
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Attn: Planning Division

Dear Colonel Rice:

This letter acknowledges the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) April 10, 1996, receipt of your March 28, 1996, letter, which responded to the FWS' request for information that would be required before initiation of formal section 7 consultation under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). The consultation concerns the possible effects on the threatened loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*), endangered green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), endangered leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coreacia*) and endangered hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*) of your proposed beach renourishment projects included within the Coast of Florida Study, Region III.

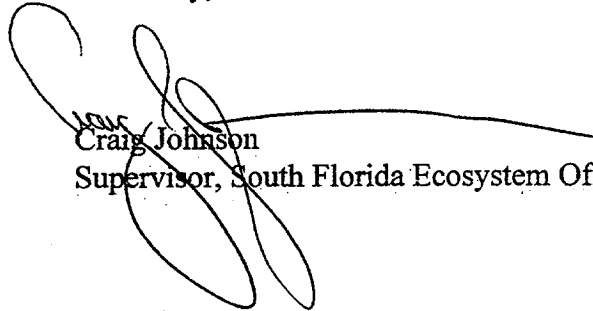
All information required of you to initiate consultation was either included with your letter or is otherwise accessible for our consideration and reference. We have assigned Log Number 4-1-96-268 to this consultation. Please refer to that number in future correspondence on this consultation.

Section 7 allows the FWS up to 90 days to conclude formal consultation with your agency and an additional 45 days to prepare our biological opinion (unless we mutually agree to an extension). Therefore, we expect to provide you with our biological opinion before August 23, 1996.

As a reminder, section 7(d) of the Endangered Species Act prohibits Federal action agencies from making irretrievable or irreversible commitments of resources that limit future options once they have initiated formal consultation with the FWS. This requirements insures agency actions do not preclude the formulation or implementation of reasonable and prudent alternatives that avoid jeopardizing the continued existence of endangered or threatened species or destroying or modifying their critical habitats.

If you have any questions or concerns about this consultation or the consultation process in general, please feel free to contact me or Charles W. Sultzman at (561) 562-3909.

Sincerely,



Craig Johnson
Supervisor, South Florida Ecosystem Office

cc:

NMFS, St. Petersburg, FL
FDEP-OPSM, Tallahassee, FL

July 9, 1996

~~June 27, 1996~~

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. Craig Johnson
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Post Office Box 2676
Vero Beach, Florida 32961-2676

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Thank you for taking several hours from your busy schedule to meet in our office with members of my environmental staff on June 18, 1996.

I have enclosed a memorandum concerning highlights of the meeting, the issues discussed, and possible resolution. If you have any comments, please let me or Dr. Hanley (Bo) Smith of my staff know. Dr. Smith can be reached at 904-232-1685 or fax at 904-232-3442 or e-mail at bo.smith@usace.army.mil.

I look forward to resolution of these issues and continued cooperation between our offices.

Sincerely,

A. J. Salem
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure

bcc:

CESAJ-DP-I (Stevens)

CESAJ-PD-PC (Granat)

~~CESAJ-DP (Bonner)~~

~~CESAJ-PD-P (Smith)~~

~~Dupes/CESAJ-PD-ER/1689/mw~~

~~Dugger/CESAJ-PD-ER~~

~~Smith/CESAJ-PD-E~~

~~Strain/CESAJ-PD-P~~

~~Bonner/CESAJ-DP~~

~~Salem/CESAJ-PD~~

L:\GROUP\PDE\DUGGER\FWSCRAIG.DOC

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting of 18 June 1996, with Craig Johnson, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

1. I am providing notes on the subject meeting. The main topic of discussion was timely response from the Vero Beach Field Office on Coordination Act Reports (CAR), Planning Aid Letters (PAL), Section 7 Consultation under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and other requested actions.

2. **Specific Projects.** (See also enclosed table.)

a. Test 7, Experimental Program, Remedial Action Plan for Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow. FWS does not intend to provide any remedial action plan for the Cape Sable Seaside Sparrow beyond that discussed and prepared at the 24 April 1996, meeting of the Multi-Species Recovery Team. Mr. Johnson agreed he would formalize the process by sending a letter with a copy of the plan stating the requirements of the Biological Opinion are satisfied.

b. Lee County Shore Protection, Gasparilla & Estero Islands, Endangered Species List. Mr. Johnson acknowledged that 2 months is too long to wait for a species list. This kind of delay should not normally occur.

c. Coast of Florida, Region III, Section 7 Consultation and CAR. This is a time sensitive action. We discussed that the contractor's field data was being forwarded to FWS along with a request to complete the CAR by 15 July. During the discussion, it was revealed that there is a difference of opinion between FWS and Corps staff. FWS staff believes that they cannot prepare a CAR for 90 miles of shoreline without detailed information on resources involved. Corps staff provided field data that was less intensive than for smaller projects but believed to be adequate for a project of the scope and programmatic nature of the COF. Mr. Johnson said he would discuss this with his staff along with the issue of whether a programmatic CAR should be provided and whether there would be enough detail in the field information to support the CAR. If this cannot be resolved, we agreed that PD-ER staff (Dugger and Dupes) would meet in the Vero Beach FWS office immediately to try to resolve the issue.

d. Pinellas County Shore Protection, Sand Key, CAR. This is a time sensitive action. Mr. Johnson is currently reviewing and editing the Draft CAR. We should receive it within the next couple weeks.

e. Dade County Shore Protection (Surfside/South Miami Beach, Sunny Isles Mod, and Bal Harbour). This is a time sensitive action. Mr. Johnson was not aware of a deadline on these and will discuss these with his staff.

CESAJ-PD-ER (200)

SUBJECT: Meeting of 18 June 1996, with Mr. Craig Johnson, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

f. Lido Key Reconnaissance, PAL. This is a time sensitive action. Mr. Johnson will look into this matter with his staff.

g. C&SF, Blue Cypress Water Management Area, Upper St. Johns, Section 7 Consultation. Mr. Johnson says the Biological Opinion (BO) is being edited. It will be a no jeopardy opinion with an incidental take statement. We should expect to get the BO by the end of the month.

3. General Discussion.

a. Letter verses Report for a CAR. Mr. Johnson believes that a letter (2 or 3 pages) should in many cases adequately document the coordination history, issues, and resolution to satisfy the CAR requirements. We stated that we usually receive a lengthy report but would welcome the simpler letter format.

b. Application of Coordination Act to Coastal Projects. Mr. Johnson believes that the act applies to coastal projects. He does not necessarily agree that the FWS should have the lead for CARs focused on marine resources. Mr. Johnson says the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has taken the lead on CARs when he worked for them in Alaska. He will further research the authority for the Corps to directly fund NMFS for this.

c. Early Involvement. All agreed that early involvement and consultation with the FWS and NMFS is important and it was agreed that we would review our procedures to assure that this was being done to the extent practical or if not, how it could be improved. Mr. Johnson suggested we take advantage of their "early consultation" process, which would provide a preliminary biological opinion that could be finalized later in the process (see part 4.c. below). This would give us early indication of Fish and Wildlife issues and opinions affecting the project and only require a final letter confirming the earlier opinion and that Section 7 consultation is satisfied.

d. Data Base. Vero Beach is using a data base to respond to inquiries. If we place a latitude and longitude (or possibly UTM coordinates) on our correspondence, FWS can use the data base to quickly provide a list of protected species and other resources of special interest.

CESAJ-PD-ER (200)

SUBJECT: Meeting of 18 June 1996, with Mr. Craig Johnson, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

4. Follow-up Action.

a. Mr. Johnson will further research some of the issues identified above and will discuss pending actions with his staff.

b. We plan to follow-up with a phone call early next week and offer to meet with FWS staff to resolve any remaining issues.

c. In an effort to assure that FWS and NMFS are fully involved in project planning, PD-E will review our procedures to incorporate early consultation, Endangered Species Act requirements, and Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act requirements into the Corps' key milestones. We will outline the procedures and submit a draft plan to FWS in about 30 days.

Encl

KENNETH DUGGER
Chief, Environmental Coordination Section

C:\MSOFFICE\WINWORD\MEMOS\MFRFWS.DOC

PENDING AND ANTICIPATED ACTIONS WITH FWS, VERO BEACH

PROJECT	ACTION REQUESTED	DATE OF REQUEST	DUE DATE	STATUS
Lido Key Reconnaissance Study	Planning Aid Letter (SOW, Cost, and MIPR)	Jan 29 (duplicates Feb 14, Mar 18, Mar 20, May 9) 1996	Planning Aid Ltr, 5/26/96	No reply on SOW, cost estimate, or MIPR
Bal Harbour, Dade County Shore Protection	Coordination Act Report (SOW and Cost Estimate)	Draft SOW faxed 4/18/96	Dive Borrow Area 6/30/96	No reply on Draft SOW
Project Mod Sunny Isles Dade County SP	Coordination Act Report	Draft SOW faxed 4/18/96	Dive Borrow Area 6/30/96	No reply on Draft SOW
Surfside & S. Miami Beach, Dade Co. SP	Coordination Act Report	Pipeline Corridor Identified March 96	CAR/Sec 7, 6/30/96	SCUBA survey of Apr 24-26, 96 postponed by FWS until May 27-31, 1996
Lee County Shore Protect.	Coordination Act Report (SOW and Cost Estimate)	Anticipated around Oct 1, 96	Draft CAR 12/01/96	Beach Survey, Core Borings, and Side Scan Sonar being initiated
Gasparilla/Estero Islands Coast of Florida Region III	Coordination Act Report	Contractor Field Survey Report to FWS 6/19/96	Draft CAR 7/30/96	FWS to use contractor's field data to complete CAR
Pinellas County Shore Protection. Sand Key	Coordination Act Report	May 31, 1995	Draft CAR 12/4/95	Draft CAR of Dec 1995, being revised by FWS Expect a Copy Around end of June
Coast of Florida Region IV	Coordination Act Report & Sec. 7 Consultation	SOW expected June 96	?	Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement with State being negotiated
Coast of Florida Region III	Section 7 Consultation	Initiated Oct 5, 1995		Awaiting Biological Opinion
Lee Co. Shore Protection Gasparilla & Estero Is.	Endangered Species List Requested	List Requested Apr 18, 1996		List Received Jun 10, 1996
C&SF, Blue Cypress WMA, Upper St. Johns	Section 7 Consultation	Formal Consultation initiated July 1995	Bio. Opinion due Jan 96	Awaiting Biological Opinion, Expect BO around end of June (no jeopardy w/ incidental take statement)
Test 7, Experimental Program	Remedial Action Plan Cape Sabel Seaside Sparrow	Apr 24, 96 (at mult. species recovery team meeting)	Jun 30, 1996	FWS not going to write a Remedial Action Plan use plan discussed at team meeting

JUN 21 1996

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. Craig Johnson
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 2676
Vero Beach, Florida 32961-2676

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I am forwarding the results of the field investigations for the Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study, Region III. Since your office indicated they were unable to perform the field work under the Scope of Work submitted by facsimile to your office on August 3, 1995, I am also enclosing an amended Scope of Work.

I understand that your staff is concerned that the spacing of transects is greater than that normally used to support a Coordination Act Report (CAR) for shore protection activities. However, I believe a more detailed field investigation is both impracticable and unnecessary at this time. The enclosed field investigation of the approximate 90 miles of coastal area involved 22 transects and was performed by a contractor at a cost of over \$55,000. It is uncertain at this time whether the final feasibility report will recommend any Federal participation or when aspects of the project would be constructed.

I request that the CAR address the likely range of impacts based on the information provided and the several CARs already conducted by your office for shore protection in Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties. It appears that such a report could satisfy the requirements of Section 2(b) of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act by providing your recommendations (as specific as is practicable) with respect to 1) possible damage to wildlife resources, 2) means and measures that should be adopted to prevent the loss of or damage to such resources, and 3) features recommended for wildlife conservation and development. I request that, if needed, a more specific determination of resources and impacts be deferred until a particular phase or aspect of the project is more definitely considered for construction and Federal participation.

Please sign the enclosed amended Scope of Work and return it by mail and facsimile (904-232-3442) so we can fund the report. It is very important that you provide the requested CAR by July 15, 1996. Please contact me if this is not feasible.

Sincerely,

A. J. Salem
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosures

bcc:
DP-I (Stevens)
PD-PC (Granat)

Handwritten: ~~Dupes~~/CESAJ-PD-ER/1689/
~~7/12~~ Dugger/CESAJ-PD-ER
Smith/CESAJ-PD-E
~~8/16~~ Strain/CESAJ-PD-P
~~8/16~~ Penner/CESAJ-DP *CF*
DJS Salem/CESAJ-PD

L:\GROUP\PDE\DPES\FWSREG3.DOC

**SCOPE OF WORK
FISH AND WILDLIFE COORDINATION ACT
COAST OF FLORIDA EROSION AND
STORM EFFECTS STUDY**

REGION III

1.0 Project Title: Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study - Region III.

2.0 Authorization Status: General Investigation, Feasibility Study.

3.0 Project Description: The Coast of Florida Study (COFS) is a multi-year, phased regional feasibility examining the entire developed east coast ocean shoreline and west coast gulf shoreline. The objective of the study is to develop a comprehensive understanding of the coastal processes and associated environmental resources to help in the development of enhanced shore protection projects while reducing environmental impacts. The current region being studied (Region III), which includes Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties, is nearing completion. Alternative recommendations for 21 project segment modifications have been identified through the COFS. These modifications include initial beach restoration for four new sites, (Fort Lauderdale, Highland Beach, Dania and Golden Beach) and improvements at two existing sand transfer plants (Lake Worth Inlet and South Lake Worth Inlet) in addition to modifications at other existing authorized beach nourishment sites. New nearshore berm disposal sites have also been identified as project components adjacent to several project locations. The location of identified hardground areas have been taken into consideration by scaling back recommended project footprints and carefully locating nearshore berms to reduce and/or avoid associated impacts to hardground resources. The recommended plans are discussed in the Draft Feasibility Report for the study, dated May 1995. A preliminary review copy of this report, which includes a Draft Environmental Impact Statement has been provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office in Vero Beach, Florida.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is being prepared to address the environmental impacts of the study alternatives and the selected plan. Detailed plans for some of the more complex proposed projects will not be developed during this feasibility phase. For instance, the exact location and detailed design of sand transfer plants will not be known. The general location of new sand sources have been identified during the feasibility phase; however, detailed design and analysis will take place during post authorization planning, engineering and design (PED) activities for each project. Sufficient uncertainty may exist concerning impacts to fish and wildlife resources that further environmental investigation and analyses may be needed during PED for each project. This would include endangered species coordination, and the appropriate NEPA document and coordination. More detailed investigations by the FWS would take place as needed at that time.

4.0 Work Required of the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS):

4.1 Review of Literature and Existing Data:1 biologist, 10 days

Perform a review of the literature and existing data relevant to the Coast of Florida Study. This review should include, but not be limited to: 1) previous Planning Aid Reports and Coordination Act Reports prepared by the FWS for beach nourishment projects within the Region III study area, 2) existing Inlet Management Plans for inlets within the study area, 3) any information and/or data Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties may have on fish and wildlife resources within the study area, 4) report entitled, Hardground and Seagrass Assessment, Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study, Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties, prepared by Lotspeich and Associates, Inc., for the Corps of Engineers.

4.2 Coordination Act Report (CAR):

Prepare and Coordinate Draft CAR1 biologist, 10 days

Review comments to Draft CAR and prepare Final CAR.....1 biologist, 3 days

Prepare a Coordination Act Report in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act that will satisfy Section 2(b) of the Act. The CAR shall include:

- a. Determine and evaluate the effects of potential increases in siltation and sedimentation as a result of the proposed project on nearby natural habitats.
- b. Discuss alternative to minimize or avoid significant impacts to natural resources. Recommendations to mitigate possible impacts.
- c. Include copies of all correspondence pertaining to the FWCA studies and report.

4.3 Report submittal:

- a. A draft CAR shall be submitted to the Corps by July 15, 1996.
- b. A final CAR shall be submitted to the Corps within 45 days after submittal of the draft CAR.

5.0 Information to be provided by the Corps: Provide a copy of the report entitled, Hardground and Seagrass Assessment, Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study, Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties, prepared by Lotspeich and Associates, Inc

6.0 Agreement:

By completion of the enclosed DD Form 448, transferring funds for this work in accordance with the enclosed itemized cost estimate, the undersigned certify intention to perform respective tasks within the time frames stated in this Scope of Work.

CRAIG JOHNSON
Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

DATE: _____

HANLEY K. SMITH
Chief, Environmental Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

DATE: _____



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 4970
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32232-0019



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

March 28, 1996

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. Craig Johnson
South Florida Ecosystem Office
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Post Office Box 2676
Vero Beach, Florida 32961-2676

Dear Mr. Johnson:

This is in reply to your letter dated, February 14, 1996, requesting additional information regarding the current Section 7 consultation for Region III of the Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study (FWS Log No.: 4-1-96-268).


Your letter requested the number of proposed projects that could potentially be constructed within any single year. Enclosed is a table showing past nourishment activities, anticipated future nourishments, and the scheduled renourishment intervals for projects and proposed projects within Region III. You should be aware that this is not a firm schedule and is subject to change based on the need as well as availability of Federal and sponsor funding.

I note that the Biological Assessment (BA) was submitted and formal consultation was requested by our letter dated October 5, 1995 and not December 2, 1995 as stated in your letter. It is important that we conclude consultation promptly. Please inform me if the Biological Opinion cannot be completed by April 30, 1996.

-2-

If you have any questions, you can contact Mr. Mike Dupes at 904-232-1689.

Sincerely,



A. J. Salem
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure

Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study - Draft
Feasibility Report with Draft EIS for Region III

Estimated Schedule for Beach Nourishment.

Renourishment Interval (Yrs) *		Beach Nourishment; Anticipated (A), Initial (I), Last (L), Next (N), Proposed by Sponsor (P), Unscheduled (U)
<hr/>		
Palm Beach County:		
Jupiter Carlin	7	1995 I
Ocean Cay/Juno	7	1998 P (Juno)
N. End Palm Beach Island	4	U
Midtown (Palm Beach Island)	4	U **
S. End Palm Beach Island	4	U
Ocean Ridge	8	1996/1997 I
Delray Beach	7	1992 L
Highland Beach	7	U
Boca Raton	8	1997 N
 Broward County:		
Deerfield Beach/Highland Beach (Segment I)	7	U
Hillsboro Inlet to Port Everglades (Segment II) Pompano/Lauderdale-By -The-Sea	12	1998 P (1984 L)
Fort Lauderdale	6	1998 P
Port Everglades Inlet to Bakers Haulover Inlet (Segment III) J.U. Lloyd	6	1998 P (1989 L)
Hollywood/Hallandale	6	1998 P (1991 L)
Dania	6	1998 P

Renourishment Interval (Yrs) *	Beach Nourishment; Anticipated (A), Initial (I), Last (L), Next (N), Proposed by Sponsor (P), Unscheduled (U)
-----------------------------------	---

Dade County:

Golden Beach	6	U
Sunny Isles	10	1997 N
Bakers Haulover Inlet to Government Cut Bal Harbour, Surfside, and Miami Beach	3	1997 N
Key Biscayne	7	1987 L

* Source of data is the Draft Feasibility Report with Draft EIS.

** Town of Palm Beach partially constructed in 1995 .



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southeast Regional Office
9721 Executive Center Drive N.
St. Petersburg, FL 33702

MAR 21 1996

F/SEO13:JEB

Mr. A. J. Salem
Chief, Planning Division
Jacksonville District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Dear Mr. Salem:

This responds to your letter of October 12, 1995, requesting consultation on the proposed actions recommended in the Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study. The actions involve beach restoration and nourishment activities and improvements to two sand transfer plants in Region III, which includes Palm Beach, Broward, and Dade counties in Florida. A biological assessment (BA) was transmitted pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA).

We have reviewed the BA and concur with your determination that the proposed project will not adversely affect listed species under our purview. This determination is based on the requirement that the Corps of Engineers abide by all protective measures included in the August 25, 1995, biological opinion addressing dredging activities in the Southeast Region. However, the National Marine Fisheries Service is concerned over the possible use of aragonite or other calcium-carbonate sands from the Bahama Bank for beach nourishment projects. We are concerned that ecological damage may take place by the removal of these sands from an area where environmental controls are less rigorous than in the United States. We are also concerned that sea turtle eggs laid in aragonite sands may not incubate in the same manner as eggs laid in native sands. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has jurisdiction over sea turtles while they are on land and they should be consulted on the use of these sands.

This concludes consultation responsibilities under Section 7 of the ESA. However, consultation should be reinitiated if new information reveals impacts of the identified activity that may affect listed species or their critical habitat, a new species is listed, the identified activity is subsequently modified, or critical habitat is determined that may be affected by the proposed activity.



If you have any questions please contact Jeffrey Brown, Fishery Biologist, at (813) 570-5312.

Sincerely,



Andrew J. Kemmerer
Regional Director

cc: F/PR8



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

P.O. Box 2676

Vero Beach, Florida 32961-2676

February 14, 1996

Colonel Terry L. Rice
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 4970
Jacksonville, FL 32232-0019

Attn: Planning Division

FWS Log No.: 4-1-96-268

Project: Coast of Florida Study

Dear Colonel Rice:

Thank you for your letter dated December 2, 1995, and the attached Biological Assessment (BA) for the project referenced above pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) proposes to modify 21 Civil Works project segments which involve beach nourishment and renourishment in Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties, Florida. Fifteen of the projects have been previously authorized. Four of the nourishment projects are new and require authorization and initial placement of beach fill. The new projects are located in Fort Lauderdale, Highland Beach, Dania, and Golden Beach. Two of the projects involve improvement of existing sand transfer plants. These are located at Lake Worth Inlet and South Lake Worth Inlet.

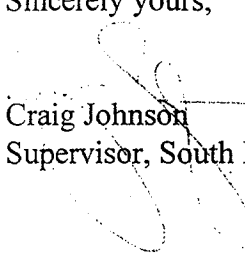
The COE determined that these proposed actions "may affect" threatened and endangered sea turtles. Based upon our preliminary review, we concur with your determination for federally listed sea turtles, which include the threatened loggerhead sea turtle (*Caretta caretta*) as well as the endangered green sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*), leatherback sea turtle (*Dermochelys coreacia*), and hawksbill sea turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*). Currently, there is no critical habitat designated for the sea turtles listed above.

Before formal consultation for threatened and endangered sea turtles under the ESA can be initiated, the FWS will need to know how many of the proposed projects could potentially be constructed within any single year. This information is important for our estimation of the total adverse affects which could be brought to bear on each year class of hatchling sea turtles. Once this information is received by the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), formal consultation will be initiated and a Biological Opinion will be issued shortly after the conclusion of the consultation period.

According to your BA, the COE has determined that the proposed projects will have "no effect" on the endangered manatee (*Trichechus manatus latirostris*). The BA also states that the standard manatee protection construction conditions will be followed during construction operations. Potential risk of injury to manatees should be negligible as a result of these protection measures. Thus, we conclude that the proposed actions are not likely to affect the manatee. Although the BA did not include a determination for adverse affects to designated critical habitat for the manatee, the FWS concludes that no adverse modification or destruction of designated critical habitat for the manatee will occur as a result of the proposed projects.

We await the requested information. If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Chuck Sultzman of our office at (407)562-3909.

Sincerely yours,


Craig Johnson
Supervisor, South Florida Ecosystem Office

cc:
NMFS, Miami, FL
FDEP, Tallahassee, FL
FGFWFC, Vero Beach, FL

October 12, 1995

Planning Division
Environmental Branch

Mr. Charles A. Oravetz
Chief, Protected Species Management Branch
National Marine Fisheries Service
9721 Executive Center Drive North
St. Petersburg, Florida 33702

Dear Mr. Oravetz:

This is in reference to Region III of the Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study which is currently being conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). Enclosed is a description of the study and a discussion of the recommended plan.

On August 25, 1995, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) issued a Regional Biological Opinion (RBO) for hopper dredging of channels and beach nourishment activities in the Southeastern United States from North Carolina through Florida East Coast. The Corps has determined that the proposed actions recommended in the referenced study are covered in the RBO and no further consultation with NMFS under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act is required at this time.

Your concurrence on this determination is requested. If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Mr. Mike Dupes at 904-232-1689.

Sincerely,

A. J. Salem
Chief, Planning Division

Enclosure

STUDY DESCRIPTION
COAST OF FLORIDA EROSION AND STORM EFFECTS STUDY
REGION III

- 1. PROJECT AUTHORITY:** The Coast of Florida Erosion and Storm Effects Study (COFS) is being conducted in response to Section 104, Public Law (PL) 98-360, dated July 16, 1984, and a resolution date August 8, 1984, by the Committee on Public Works and Transportation, of the U.S. House of Representatives.
- 2. LOCATION:** The study area is located along the Atlantic Ocean shoreline of Palm Beach, Broward, and Dade Counties on the lower southeast coast of Florida (Figure 1). Palm Beach County is the northernmost county in the study area followed by Broward County and then Dade County at the southern end. The northern limit is Jupiter Inlet and is about 80 miles north of Miami Beach. The southern limit of the study area is the southern tip of Key Biscayne in Dade County. The study area comprises approximately 88 miles of Atlantic Ocean shoreline.
- 3. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION:** The COFS is a multi-year, phased regional feasibility study examining the entire developed east coast ocean shoreline and west coast gulf shoreline. The objective of the study is to develop a comprehensive understanding of the coastal processes and associated environmental resources to help in the development of enhanced shore protection projects while reducing environmental impacts. The current region being studied (Region III), which includes Dade, Broward and Palm Beach Counties, is nearing completion. Alternative recommendations for 21 project segment modifications have been identified through the COFS. These modifications include initial beach restoration for four new sites, (Fort Lauderdale, Highland Beach, Dania and Golden Beach) and improvements at two existing sand transfer plants (Lake Worth Inlet and South Lake Worth Inlet) in addition to modifications at other existing authorized beach nourishment sites. New nearshore berm disposal sites have also been identified as project components adjacent to several project locations. Alternative sand sources for beach renourishment include offshore borrow areas, upland sand sources and aragonite (or other calcium carbonate sands) from the Bahama Bank. The location of identified hardground areas have been taken into consideration by scaling back recommended project footprints and carefully locating nearshore berms to reduce and/or avoid associated impacts to hardground resources. The recommended plans are discussed in attachment 1.

COAST OF FLORIDA STUDY LOCATION MAP

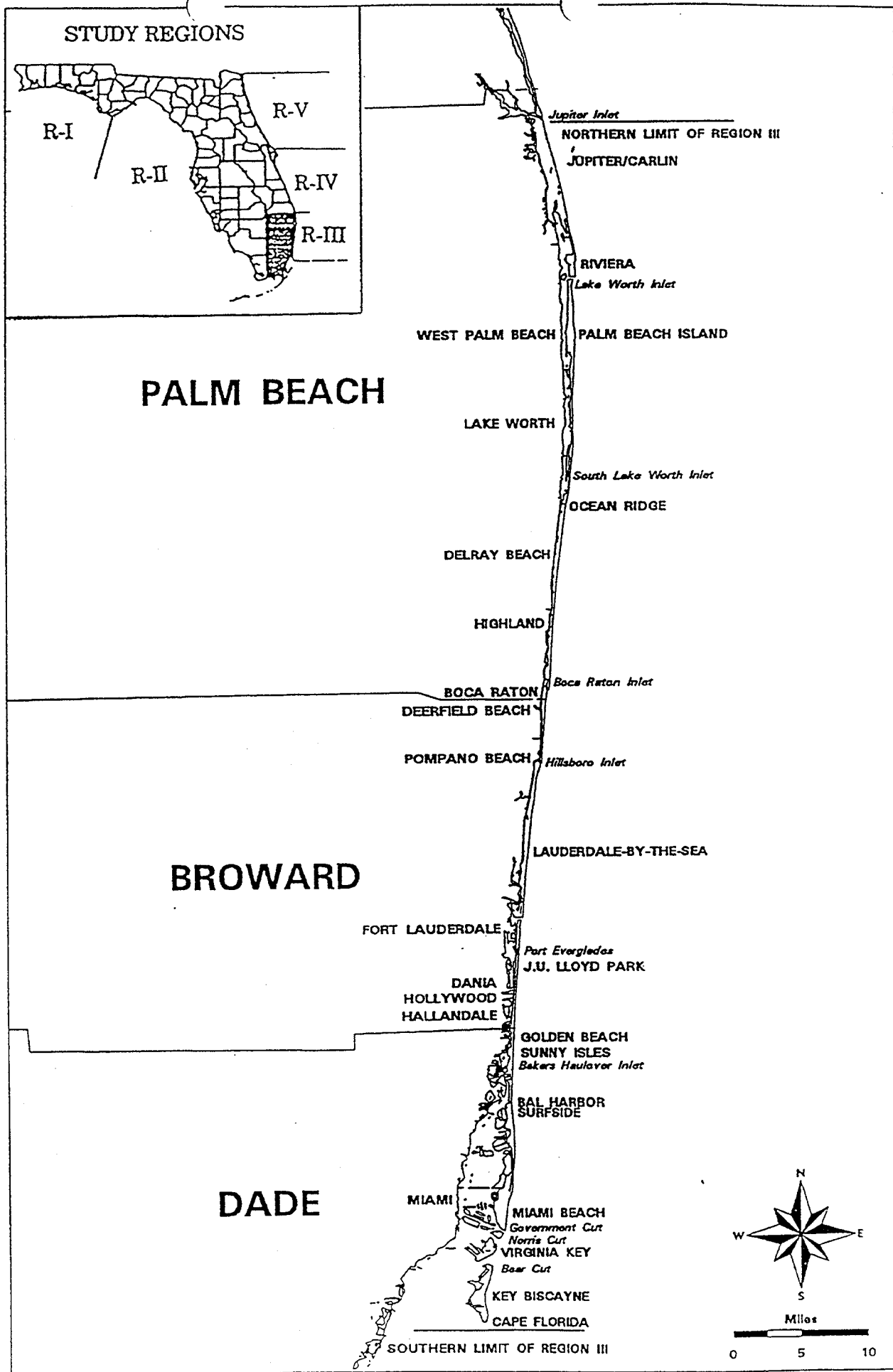


Figure 1

RECOMMENDED PLAN

PALM BEACH COUNTY

233. Recommend that the project for Palm Beach County, Florida from Martin County Line to Lake Worth Inlet and South Lake Worth Inlet to Broward County Line, authorized by the River and Harbor Act of 1962 (PL 87-874), be modified and herein after called the Palm Beach County, Florida Shore Protection Project. The following paragraphs describe components of the recommended project segments.

Jupiter Inlet to Lake Worth Inlet Project Segment

234. Jupiter/Carlin. This existing 1.1 mile beach restoration and periodic nourishment project component is located between DEP monuments R-13 and R-19. The project consists of a beach restoration with a seven year nourishment interval. Initial construction of this project was completed during April 1995. Extension of Federal participation from 10 years to the economic life of the project is recommended. Nearshore berms are not feasible in association with this project area due to the presence of nearshore hardgrounds.

235. Ocean Cay/Juno. This 2.75 mile project component is currently authorized for periodic nourishment as needed and justified. The recommended modification includes adding initial restoration by construction of a design beach with a 55 foot berm, and periodic nourishment between DEP monuments R-27 and R-41. The renourishment interval is seven years. The equilibrium toe of fill, including initial fill plus advance nourishment, is 300 feet. Mitigation for approximately 1.7 acres of hardground impact may be necessary in association with this project component. A nearshore berm site, away from potential hardground impact, has also been identified for use as an alternative maintenance dredged material disposal site. Extension of Federal participation from 10 years to the economic life of this project component is also recommended.

Lake Worth Inlet to South Lake Worth Inlet Project Segment:

236. Recommend that the project for Palm Beach County, Florida for Lake Worth Inlet to South Lake Worth Inlet (Palm Beach Island) authorized in 1958 (PL 85-500) be deauthorized. The following project components for Palm Beach Island would be added as project modifications to the Palm Beach County, Florida (1962) project. Extension of Federal participation from 10 years to the economic life of the project is also recommended for each project component.

237. Lake Worth Inlet. The recommended plan for Lake Worth Inlet requires the construction of a new fixed sand transfer plant to be located north of the inlet with three discharge points located along the dry beach 750, 1,250 and 1,750 feet south of

the south jetty on Palm Beach Island. This system would be designed for a target bypassing rate of about 160,000 cubic yards per year to the south, across the inlet, through a 12-in pipeline.

238. The recommended plan for the sand bypassing plant would include:

- a. A deposition area north of the north jetty,
- b. An array of jet pumps suspended from a pier oriented perpendicular to the shoreline, or a single jet pump deployed by a crane from the north jetty,
- c. A clear water pump and pipeline providing water to the jet pumps,
- d. An on shore pumphouse containing the clear water pump and a booster pump for transferring the dredged material past the inlet,
- e. A slurry pit to ensure the proper ratio of solids to water,
- f. An drilled tunneled pipeline under the inlet from north of the north jetty to the south side of the south jetty, and
- g. All associated pipe, valves, instruments, and controls required for operation of the system, including three remote controlled discharge valves located within the first 2,250 feet south of the south jetty.

The detailed sand transfer plant design would be determined within a Feature Design Memorandum (FDM) to be prepared during PED.

239. North-end Palm Beach Island. The 1.95 mile beach restoration and periodic nourishment project component located between DEP monuments R-76 and R-85 is authorized (1958), but not constructed. The optimal berm width is 10 feet at elevation +9.0 feet NGVD and slopes of 1:10 berm to MLW and 1:30 from MLW to existing bottom. The initial project design volume is 100,000 cubic yards with a 190 foot toe of fill. The recommended renourishment interval is 4 years. The distance to the equilibrium toe of fill, including initial fill plus advance nourishment, is 281 feet with a total volume of 239,400 cubic yards. Mitigation for approximately 18 acres of hardground impact may be necessary in association with this project segment. Nearshore berms are not feasible in association with this project component due to the presence of nearshore hardgrounds.

240. Palm Beach Island (Mid-town). The 3.1 mile beach restoration and periodic nourishment project component located between DEP monuments R-91 and R-105 is authorized (1958), but not constructed. The optimal berm width is 25 feet at elevation +9.0 feet NGVD and slopes of 1:10 berm to MLW and 1:30 from MLW to existing bottom. The initial project design volume is 568,400 cubic yards with a 390

foot toe of fill. The recommended renourishment interval is 4 years. The distance to the equilibrium toe of fill, including initial fill plus advance nourishment is 455 feet with a total volume of 1,025,7800 cubic yards. Mitigation for approximately 3.65 acres of hardground impact may be necessary in association with this project component. Three potential nearshore berm sites have been identified for use as an alternative maintenance dredged material disposal site for the Federal navigation project at Palm Beach Harbor.

241. South-end Palm Beach Island. This 3.25 mile beach restoration and periodic nourishment project component located between DEP monuments R-116 and R-132 is authorized (1958), but not constructed. The optimal berm width is 35 feet at elevation +9.0 feet NGVD and slopes of 1:10 berm to MLW and 1:30 from MLW to existing bottom. The initial project design volume is 248,900 cubic yards with a 350 foot toe of fill. The recommended renourishment interval is 4 years. The distance to the equilibrium toe of fill, including initial fill plus advance nourishment, is 432 feet with a total volume of 674,500 cubic yards. Mitigation for approximately 5.4 acres of hardground may be necessary in association with this project component.